

### **REMARKS**

Applicant would like thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the interview on May 4, 2009. As discussed during the interview, Applicant requests reconsideration of independent Claims 1 and 9, and the claims depending therefrom, in view of the Amendments and Remarks set forth herein, which Applicant considers to be a summary of the matters discussed during the interview as required by 37 CFR § 1.133(b). Applicant has canceled Claims 14-21 as being directed to a non-elected invention.

#### **The Rejection Under § 112 Is Overcome**

The Office Action rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which application regards as the invention. As discussed during the interview, independent Claim 9 has been amended to affirmatively recite that the longitudinally extending rib is absent the at least one end of the bar rather than being "interrupted" and defining discontinuous sections in the troughs. As a result of these amendments, dependent Claim 5 has been canceled. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment overcomes the rejection under under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

#### **The Rejection Under § 102(b) Is Overcome**

The Office Action rejected Claims 9-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,584,247 to Mulholland ("Mulholland").

As discussed during the interview, Mulholland discloses a deformed bar having at least two (2) sets of helical ribs/threads **2, 3 and 4**. The threads 3 are formed by inserting the bar in a thread rolling machine. As noted in Mulholland, "[t]he threadrolling operation displaces, by cold deformation, material from the originals ribs (2), (4) and (5) and forms this material and other material from the body of the bar into the form a thread..." (See Column 3, ll. 32-35). In contrast, as illustrated in Figures 1, 2 and 3 of the present application and as discussed during the interview, the pattern of the traverse threads **24** of the present invention is substantially the same along the length of the bar. This is advantageous since the present invention eliminates the necessity of forming additional threads on the end of the bar.

It was also discussed during the interview that Mulholland does not teach or suggest a longitudinally extending gap that intersects the traverse ribs at the end of the bar where the at least one longitudinally extending rib is absent.

As discussed during the interview, Applicant has amended independent Claim 9 to further emphasize these distinctions. Specifically, Applicant has amended independent Claim 9 to clarify that the pattern of threads is substantially the same along the length of the bar and that at least a part of the at least one longitudinally extending rib is absent from a second section of the bar adjacent at least one end of the bar such that a longitudinally extending gap intersects said traverse ribs in the second section of the bar adjacent the at least one end of the bar.

Applicant submits that independent Claim 9, and the claims depending therefrom, as clarified by the above-referenced amendments, include recitations which patentably distinguish the claimed invention over the cited reference.

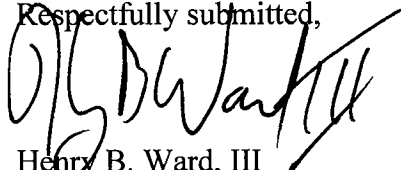
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**CONCLUSION**

In view of the amendments to the application and the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims of the present application are in condition for immediate allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued. Examiner Gilbert is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present application.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 13-4365.

Respectfully submitted,



Henry B. Ward, III  
Registration No. 42,212

**Customer No. 24239**  
**MOORE & VAN ALLEN PLLC**  
430 Davis Drive, Suite 500  
Post Office Box 13706  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709  
Phone: 707-331-1027  
Fax: 704-339-5800  
CHAR2\1176364v1

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